

SP-0649.1 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : John C. Nardi
Serial No. : 09/213,544
Filed : December 17, 1998
For : Alkaline Cell Having a Cathode Incorporating Enhanced Graphite

Art Unit: 1745
Examiner: C. Chaney

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.132

I, the undersigned, hereby declare:

1. I am the inventor of the above-identified patent application.
2. I am employed by the assignee in the above-identified application, Eveready Battery Company, Inc.
3. I have thoroughly reviewed U.S. Patent No. 5,482,798 (Mototani et al.).
4. I have had expanded graphites made from both synthetic and natural graphites using the general method disclosed in the Mototani et al. patent, adding only H_2SO_4 to the starting graphite materials before thermal treatment at about 950°C . The resultant expanded graphite materials were milled, and the milled materials were tested to determine their average particle sizes and kerosene absorption values. The average particle sizes and kerosene absorption values for several samples of those expanded graphite materials are summarized in the table below. The kerosene absorption values of all of the expanded graphite materials listed were below 2.2 ml/g.

Starting Material	Acid	Average Particle Size D_{50} (μm)	Kerosene Absorption (ml/g)
synthetic graphite	H_2SO_4	11	0.9
synthetic graphite	H_2SO_4	20	0.8
natural graphite	H_2SO_4	1.25	0.7
natural graphite	H_2SO_4	10.6	1.1

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The undersigned hereby declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Sections 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

By:

John C. Nardi
John C. Nardi

12-1-03
Date